

Message Text

SECRET

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21

ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /026 W

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R 290845Z OCT 74

FM AMEMBASSY JIDDA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9066

INFO USINT ALGIERS

AMEMBASSY DHAHRAN

AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

AMEMBASSY LAGOS

S E C R E T JIDDA 6250

EXDIS

E.O.: 11652: GDS

TAGS: ENRG, PFOR, SA, US

SUBJ: LINKING OIL PRICES TO PEACE IN THE MIDDLE EAST

REF : JIDDA 6051; STATE 232116

1. I TOLD KAMAL ADHAM OCT 26 I HAD REPORTED TO WASHINGTON HIS IDEA OF TRYING OIL PRICES TO PEACE IN THE MIDDLE EAST. THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE STRONGLY SUPPORTED THE POSITION I HAD TAKEN WITH HIM THE DAY BEFORE (REFTELS).

2. ADHAM SAID HE HAD TOLD THE KING OF HIS IDEA AND THE KING LIKED IT. IT WOULD OF COURSE ONLY BE UNVEILED AS A COUNTERWEIGHT TO THE PRESUMED PROPOSAL TO REINSTITUTE THE OIL BOYCOTT.

3. I TOLD ADHAM THAT ANY MENTION OF OIL IN THE POLITICAL CONTEXT WOULD HURT THE ARABS, IT WOULD CALL INTO QUESTION KING FAISAL'S LONG-STANDING POLICY TO REDUCE OIL PRICES BECAUSE OF THEIR EFFECT ON THE ECONOMY OF THE WORLD. TO ADVANCE A POLITICAL CONDITION NOW WOULD BE DISRUPTING AND DEMORALIZING TO CONSUMERS AND PRODUCERS ALIKE.

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4. COMMENT: I GATHER FROM OUR EMBASSIES THAT KUWAIT AND

ALGERIA WOULD NOT SUPPORT THE ADHAM PLAN. I ALSO STRONGLY DOUBT THAT IRAQ OR LIBYA (IF IT ATTENDS) WOULD GO ALONG. IF FAISAL THEN INSISTS THAT OIL BE MENTIONED ONLY IN CONNECTION WITH HIS "PLAN" OR THAT IT NOT BE MENTIONED AT ALL, HE PROBABLY WILL SUCCEED IN GETTING IT REMOVED FROM THE AGENDA. IF THE OTHERS ALL INSIST ON REFERRING TO THE BOYCOTT IT WOULD BE UNCHARACTERISTIC OF FAISAL TO STAND UP AND FIGHT THEM. IN THAT CASE, HE VERY LIKELY WOULD SIT GLUMLY IN THE CORNER, SAY NOTHING, AND THEN SUBSEQUENTLY DENY THAT HE HAD ANYTHING TO DO WITH THE PLAN OR THAT HE WOULD BE BOUND TO THE DECISION.
AKINS

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NNN

Message Attributes

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